Minneapolis Charter Commission Minutes

January 2, 2013 - 4:00 p.m. Room 317 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commissioners Present: Clegg (Chair), Cohen, Connell, Dolan, Johnson, Kozak, Metge, Peltola, Rice,

Rubenstein, Sandberg, Schwarzkopf

Commissioners Excused: Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness Also Present: Burt Osborne, Assistant City Attorney

1. Roll Call

Chair Clegg called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. Roll call was taken.

2. Adopt Agenda

Dolan moved adoption of the agenda. Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

3. Approve minutes of regular meeting of December 5, 2012

Dolan moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of December 5, 2012. Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

4. Chair's Report

Clegg reported on upcoming agenda items: February - Discussion of educational and outreach planning regarding the Plain Language Charter. March - Charter Commission orientation session and question-and-answer session with the City's Ethics Officer.

Burt Osborne, Assistant City Attorney, encouraged all Charter Commissioners to take the on-line ethics training prior to the March meeting. Ethics training is required of Commissioners every four years.

Election of Officers

5. Election of Officers:

Elect Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Clegg opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Sandberg moved the nomination of Commissioner Clegg as Chair. Seconded.

There being no further nominations for Chair, nominations were closed. Sandberg's motion to nominate Commissioner Clegg as Chair was adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

Clegg opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

Metge moved the nomination of Commissioner Sandberg as Vice Chair. Seconded.

There being no further nominations for Vice Chair, nominations were closed. Metge's motion to nominate Commissioner Sandberg as Vice Chair was adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

Clegg opened the floor to nominations for Secretary.

Kozak moved the nomination of Commissioner Schwarzkopf as Secretary. Seconded.

There being no further nominations for Secretary, nominations were closed. Kozak's motion to nominate Commissioner Schwarzkopf as Secretary was adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

Discussion

6. Plain Language Charter Revision:

Clegg stated that Version 12(F) of the Plain Language Charter Revision incorporated the minor revisions discussed at the December meeting: (a) moving the provisions regarding the City Clerk to Article IV and (b) Adding Article X relating to transitional provisions. The only remaining issue is the mill rate language which Deputy City Attorney Peter Ginder will discuss with the City's Finance Department.

Kozak moved the following:

- 1. To designate Version 12(F) of the Plain Language Charter as the "2013 Final Version";
- 2. To place adoption of the 2013 Final Version on the city's 2013 general election ballot;
- 3. To allow the Charter Commission to make any necessary corrections or amendments to the 2013 Final Version up until the time of submission to the City Council; and
- 4. To direct the Chair to submit the same to the City Council as soon as practicable after such submission would not trigger a special election pursuant to State law. Seconded.

Rubenstein expressed concerns that without the support of the City Council, the Charter Commission would be required to engage in an expensive educational campaign with no budget or resources. If the ballot question failed, then all the Commission's work would have gone to waste.

Kozak's motion was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

Clegg noted that Commissioner Ferrara had indicated at the December meeting that he also supported moving the Plain Language Charter forward to the ballot.

Receive and File

7. Charter Commission 2012 Annual Report:

Receive and file Charter Commission 2012 Annual Report, and direct the Clerk to submit the report to the Chief Judge of Hennepin County District Court.

Schwarzkopf moved approval of the Charter Commission's 2012 Annual Report, as amended (correcting Commissioner Rice's term expiration date, including the Redistricting Advisory Group roster, and noting the dates the Redistricting Group and the Charter Commission approved the final ward boundaries). Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

Public Commentary

There was no one present wishing to address the Charter Commission.

Sandberg moved to adjourn. Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Ferrara, Gerdes, Lickness.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Submitted by: Peggy Menshek, Charter Commission Coordinator